

Case 3013

***Helix draparnaudi* Beck, 1837 (currently *Oxychilus draparnaudi*; Mollusca, Gastropoda): proposed conservation of the specific name**

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to conserve the specific name of *Oxychilus draparnaudi* (Beck, 1837), a common and widely distributed European land snail (family ZONITIDAE). The name (with spelling 'corrected' from the original *draparnaldi*) was placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Opinion 336 (1955), but the original combination is there given wrongly as *Helicella draparnaudi*. In the actual combination with *Helix*, Beck's name is a junior primary homonym of *H. draparnaudi* Sheppard, 1823 and (in its original spelling) of *H. draparnaldi* Cuvier, 1816. Sheppard's name is a doubtful and disused synonym in the water snail family PLANORBIDAE while Cuvier's is a junior objective synonym of *Phenacolimax major* (Férussac, 1807); the suppression of both these names is proposed.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Gastropoda; ZONITIDAE; *Oxychilus draparnaudi*.

1. Beck (1837, p. 6) introduced the nominal species *Helix* (*Helicella*) *Draparnaldi*. The specific name was based on that of the French naturalist J.P.R. Draparnaud and its long established emendation to *draparnaudi* was accepted in Opinion 336 (1955; see point 9 of para. 10) as the correct [under the then current rules] original spelling; although the change would not be valid under the present Code (Article 57f) the ruling in the Opinion still stands. The species is now known as *Oxychilus draparnaudi*.

2. Beck's species was divided into two parts:

'a. *gallica*. Drp. VIII, 23–5. Gall. *H. nitida*. Drp. sec. Michaud! — *H. cellaria* Fer!'

'b. *italica* — *H. cellaria* var. Rossm. Rossm. 22*. Ital. bor.'. The terms '*gallica*' and '*italica*' refer to regional variants of Beck's *H. draparnaudi* concept and neither has been made available as a subspecific name. Although no description of *H. draparnaudi* was published in 1837 the two indications make the name available; pl. 8, figs. 23–25 of Draparnaud (1805) showed so-called '*Helix nitida*' (see para. 3 below), and pl. 1, fig. 22* of Rossmässler (1835) depicted a variety of *H. cellaria* Müller, 1774 (now *Oxychilus cellarius*). Beck published a description of *H. draparnaldi* [sic] in 1838 on p. 7 of his appendix entitled *Specierum novarum*.

3. The identity of *H. nitida* sensu Draparnaud (1805) caused much confusion (see Taylor, 1907) until Moquin-Tandon ([1856]) realised the correct situation. This is because the meanings of this name and of *H. lucida* were exchanged in Draparnaud's books of 1801 and 1805; thus *H. nitida* sensu 1805 (p. 117, no. 54) [= *Oxychilus draparnaudi* (Beck, 1837)] is the *H. lucida* of 1801 (p. 96, no. 46), and vice versa. In

1801 (p. 96, no. 47) Draparnaud had used *H. nitida* in the correct sense, that of Müller (1774); this Holarctic species is now known as *Zonitoides nitidus* (Müller, 1774) and is the type species of *Zonitoides* Lehmann, 1862.

4. Following the clarification by Moquin-Tandon ([1856]) of the synonymy between *Helix lucida* Draparnaud, 1801, '*H. nitida*' Draparnaud, 1805 and *H. draparnaudi* Beck, 1837 the name *H. lucida* became that most commonly used for the taxon. Kennard & Woodward (1926a, p. 173; 1926b, p. 39) realized that *H. lucida* Draparnaud, 1801 is a junior primary homonym of *H. lucida* Pulteney, 1799 (p. 47), a name which is indeterminate and not in use (see Kennard & Woodward, 1926b, p. 39). Because of this homonymy Kennard & Woodward adopted Beck's specific name *draparnaudi*; the usage of *lucida* Draparnaud, 1801 nevertheless continued for some time.

5. Ellis (1951) submitted an application to the Commission for the placement of 124 mollusc specific names on the Official List. One of the names submitted by Ellis was *draparnaudi* Beck, 1837, and together with 121 others it was placed on the List in Opinion 336 (1955). However, that Opinion (and consequently the Official Lists published in consolidated form in 1987: see p. 223) contains an error, since *draparnaudi* is shown as having been published in the binomen *Helicella draparnaudi* whereas it was actually published in combination with *Helix* (see para. 7 below). This error has consequences, since *Helix draparnaudi* Beck, 1837 is a junior primary homonym of *H. draparnaudi* Sheppard, 1823 (p. 158), and in its original form *draparnaldi* [para. 1 above] of *H. draparnaldi* Cuvier, 1816 (p. 405, footnote 5). The names *H. (Cochlodina) draparnaudi* Férussac, 1821 and *H. draparnaldi* De Serres, 1827 also exist but are nomina nuda.

6. *H. draparnaldi* Cuvier, 1816 was a replacement name for *Vitrina pellucida* sensu Draparnaud (1805, pl. 8, figs. 34–37) non Müller, 1774 (see Forcart, 1946, p. 652), and as such it is a junior objective synonym of the earlier replacement name *Helicolimax major* A. Férussac in J. Férussac, 1807 (p. 43), now *Phenacolimax major*. This Férussac name was among those placed on the Official List in Opinion 336 together with *draparnaudi* Beck. Sheppard (1823, p. 158) described a species *Helix draparnaudi* on the basis of two specimens collected from a mill-pond at Holbrook, Suffolk, England. The description does not enable certain identification and there has been doubt as to the identity of Sheppard's nominal species (Kennard & Woodward, 1926a, b; Germain, 1931). Jeffreys (1830, p. 386) placed it in *Planorbis* and Gray (1840) treated Sheppard's name as a synonym of *P. marginatus* (Draparnaud, 1805), now considered the same as *P. planorbis* (Linnaeus, 1758). Moquin-Tandon ([1856], p. 428) regarded it as a junior synonym of *Helix complanata* Linnaeus, 1758 but he misidentified the latter name and was using it in the taxonomic sense of *P. planorbis*. Sheppard's specific name has not been applied as valid to any taxon since Germain (1922, p. 109) used it in a catalogue as *Planorbis draparnaudi*, although citing Jeffreys (1830) as the author.

7. In 1837 Beck (p. 6) published his name *Draparnaldi* in the form '*H. Draparnaldi*'. Although here the initial *H.* stood for *Helicella*, at the top of the page *Helicella* was given as a subgenus of *Helix*, and other subgenera (e.g. *Helix (Mesomphix)*) were treated in the same way. Kennard & Woodward (1926a, p. 40) said that 'with Beck, however, subgenera were the equivalent of the genera of other authors', but this is merely a taxonomic view and Beck's name is a junior primary

homonym of Sheppard's (and, as at first spelled, of Cuvier's), since subgeneric placement is irrelevant under Article 57d of the Code.

8. The specific name of *Oxychilus draparnaudi* (Beck, 1837) is well-known and is extensively and consistently used to denote a common and widespread species. It appears in important faunal reports, handbooks and guides (a list of 24 of these has been given to the Commission Secretariat), and also in hundreds of specialist papers devoted to faunistics, taxonomy and ecology of land snails. It would be entirely wrong to change the name on the grounds that it was a junior primary homonym of the indeterminate and disused planorbid name *Helix draparnaudi* Sheppard, 1823 or of *H. draparnaldi* Cuvier, 1816, a junior objective synonym of *Phenacolimax major* (Férussac, 1807). We propose that Beck's name be unambiguously conserved.

9. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the following specific names for the purposes of both the Principle of Priority and the Principle of Homonymy:
 - (a) *draparnaldi* Cuvier, 1816, as published in the binomen *Helix draparnaldi*;
 - (b) *draparnaudi* Sheppard, 1823, as published in the binomen *Helix draparnaudi*, and all other uses of the names *draparnaldi* and *draparnaudi* published in combination with *Helix* before the publication of *Helix draparnaldi* Beck, 1837 (corrected in Opinion 336 to *H. draparnaudi*);
- (2) to correct the entries for the names *draparnaudi* and *draparnaldi* Beck, 1837 on the Official List and the Official Index of Specific Names in Zoology to record the fact that the original generic combination was with *Helix* and not with *Helicella*;
- (3) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *draparnaldi* Cuvier, 1816, as published in the binomen *Helix draparnaldi* and as suppressed in (1)(a) above;
 - (b) *draparnaudi* Sheppard, 1823, as published in the binomen *Helix draparnaudi* and as suppressed in (1)(b) above.

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